Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CONAKR 00623 060922Z

10

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 AGR-05 EB-07 /080 W

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R 060810Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0687

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL CONAKRY 0623

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1 TAGS: PINT, GV

SUBJECT: SIGNS OF INCREASED INTERNAL SECURITY PROBLEMS FOR GOG

REF: CONAKRY 0574

1. THE SITE OF THE MAY 5-7 ECONOMIC CONFERENCE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO CONAKRY, DESPITE MUCH PREVIOUS PUBLICITY THAT THIS CONFERENCE, PRIMARILY DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND FOOD SUPPLIES, WOULD BE IN THE INTERIOR CITY OF PITA. BASED ON CONVERSATIONS WITH SEVERAL GUINEANS AND AFRICAN DIPLOMATS, CONCERN FOR THE SECURITY OF THE PRESIDENT MAY HAVE BEEN A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE LAST MINUTE CHANGE OF PLANS. PITA IS IN THE FOULAH REGION AND THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL CONSISTENT REPORTS THAT TOURE WAS WARNED THAT HIS LIFE WOULD BE IN DANGER IF HE TRAVELED TO PITA. THE FOULAHS, LARGEST TRIBAL GROUP IN GUINEA, HAVE LONG BEEN CONSIDERED LUKEWARM TOWARD TOURE, AND MANY EVEN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE FRENCH IN 1958. SINCE THAT TIME MANY HAVE PROSPERED IN PRIVATE COMMERCE, BUT HAVE GENERALLY BEEN FROZEN OUT OF NATIONAL POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

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PAGE 02 CONAKR 00623 060922Z

2. ON THE WEEKEND OF APRIL 26-27, THERE WAS A MILITARY

ALERT THROUGHOUT GUINEA, WITH INCREASED ROAD CHECKPOINTS IN CONAKRY AND SOME TROOP DEPLOYMENTS TO BORDER POSTS. ONE CREDITABLE REPORT FROM A RELIABLE AFRICAN DIPLOMAT IS THAT THE GOG HAD RECEIVED A REPORT OF A PLANNED "INVASION" FROM SIERRA LEONE. THIS GUINEAN REPORT WAS PRESUMABLY NO MORE CORRECT THAN SIMILAR REPORTS SINCE 1970 BUT IT REFLECTS THE GREATER-THAN-USUAL PREOCCUPATION WITH SECURITY MATTERS ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT. MACDONALD

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: SECURITY, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, PARTY MEETINGS

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

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